

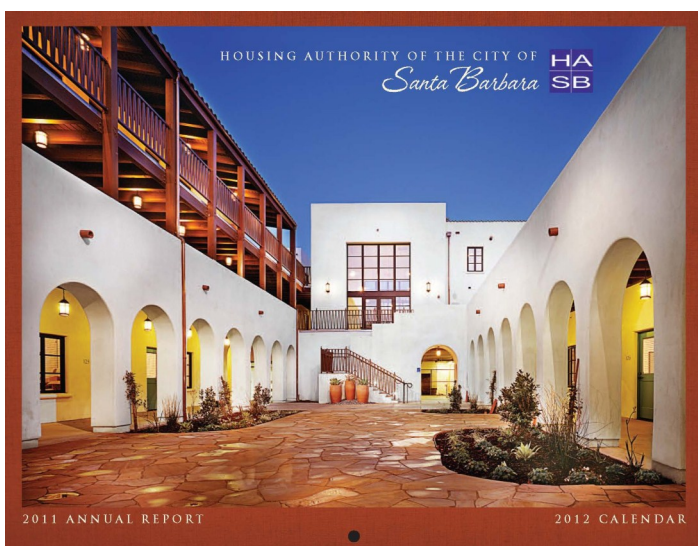
Community Times



A publication of the Housing Authority
of the City of Santa Barbara

Housing Authority Calendar

The Housing Authority's 2012 Calendar and 2011 Annual Report is here! The calendar showcases our newest affordable housing development completed in 2011, Artisan Court (see front cover below). Feel free to drop by our front office at 808 Laguna Street to pick up a copy or view online at www.hacsb.org.



It's VITA Time!

Tax return preparation assistance by VITA, the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program through the Housing Authority's partnership with the IRS, is available for FREE, February 1 - April 16, 2012 at the following sites:

Family Opportunity Center

526 W. Montecito St.

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday: 5:30 pm - 8:00 pm

Saturday: 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Paseo Voluntario Learning Center

309 S. Voluntario St.

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday: 5:30 pm - 8:00 pm

No appointment necessary! This FREE service is available to low income residents of Santa Barbara, so please let your friends and family know!

2011 in review...

Much was achieved last year by the Housing Authority. Here is a short recap:

- 1 **Artisan Court completed.** 55 units of affordable housing for homeless, disabled, downtown workers and youth aging out of foster care.
- 2 **New handicapped accessible housing.** Two newly built one-bedroom units on previously unused land added full handicapped units to our Public Housing inventory.
- 3 **Funding awarded for new affordable housing development.** We will begin construction on a 54 unit affordable housing complex at 512 Bath Street to serve disabled, homeless and downtown workers.
- 4 **7 new Family Self Sufficiency Program graduates!** Seven families achieved economic independence & accomplished such goals as buying a home and passing the California Bar exam! Congratulations!
- 5 **18 homeless families and 22 homeless individuals were housed through Common Ground Santa Barbara efforts.** The Housing Authority helped lead the movement to bring together entities involved in the homeless issue to find solutions.
- 6 **Two new properties purchased for housing with supportive services.** The Housing Authority will partner with Willbridge and the Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse to manage these properties and provide the supportive services.

You can make a difference: Volunteer!

There are abundant opportunities this time of year to give back to the community—it takes no money and only a little time. And children learn a great lesson in the process. Some needs in our community: feed the homeless bunnies at the animal shelter, help at the Zoo, Direct Relief, Special Olympics, hand out food at the Food Bank - there is something for everyone and every family. See www.parentclick.com for more ideas.

Housing Authority Employees and Community Partners Honored

Each year the Housing Authority honors 2 employees that have provided exceptional service, as nominated by their fellow colleagues. Additionally, Housing Authority staff nominate a local community-based organization that has provided extraordinary care and service to our mutual clients. Congratulations to this year's winners...

Employee of the Year: Alice Villarreal Redit...after 14 years of service with the Housing Authority, she is still going above and beyond the call of duty to help the less fortunate in our community, and inspiring her co-workers. Alice currently works in our Resident Services Department as our Client Services Coordinator, charged with expanding and enhancing our programs and services.

Humanitarian of the Year: This award goes to someone who exemplifies altruism, and in their everyday life, gives back to the community. Celia Cheney has embodied this spirit as resident manager of El Carrillo since 2009. El Carrillo is the Housing Authority's 61-unit development with supportive services for homeless where she works magic with the residents, with a combination of compassion and tough love.

Outstanding Community Partner: We recognize that our collaborations with community partners are critical to our success and that of our clients. It is with this gratitude we honor our partner of 20 years, Transition House. Transition House serves our community by providing shelter, housing and supportive services for homeless families.

Charitable Giving Recipient Winner: We expanded our charitable giving program for 2012 (donations directly from staff) and decided to pool our resources to benefit a deserving, local non-profit with the highest HACSB staff votes: Casa Esperanza Homeless Shelter. To date, staff have raised \$2500 to be donated to the Shelter.

Beautiful Home Award!

The Housing Authority would like to honor residents who not only take care of their home, but go the extra mile to make it beautiful. The first award goes to Julia Rieber for her charming garden patio at SHIFCO. For her efforts, Ms. Rieber will receive a gift certificate to Home Improvement Center!



Good Neighbor Award!

In each issue of the Community Times, we will also be honoring a resident with a "Good Neighbor Award" to appreciate them being...a good neighbor! This is someone who helps neighbors, who donates their time, and who is making a difference in their community (and ours) one person at a time.

NOMINATE YOUR NEIGHBOR FOR THIS AWARD! IF THEY WIN, YOU BOTH RECEIVE A GIFT CERTIFICATE!
Contact Clarissa Montenegro at 897-1044 or cmontenegro@hacsb.org to submit your entry.

Property & Development Department Corner

Cool Weather & Holiday Safety Tips...

- Please remove all holiday lights by January 15, 2012
- Are you using a portable heater? Make sure it is "UL rated" and SAFE
- The weather is getting cooler! Call the gas company to check and light your heater
- Carbon monoxide safety – don't use stoves or ovens for heat
- Fire safety - don't use lanterns or other fuel burning appliances indoors
- Are you ready for a blackout? Make sure to have a kit ready with flashlights, radios, etc.

X-mas Tree Pick-Up
by Marborg:
12/26/11 - 1/9/12

- * Place by dumpster
- * No finsel, stands or ornaments
- * Cut 6' trees in half

Pets During Inspections

Each year, every unit owned or under contract by the Housing Authority must undergo an annual inspection. In order for this process to go as smoothly as possible, residents who own a pet will need to take steps to ensure the animal is properly controlled.

Please make sure your pet is secured in one of two ways:

1. Secured with a leash
2. Enclosed in a crate or kennel

The Housing Authority would like each inspection to be safe and efficient, and therefore residents are urged to take proper preparations and precautions when an inspection is expected.

Please be aware of your responsibilities as a pet owner. Refer to the Pet Addendum in your Lease and be familiar with Santa Barbara city codes and regulations.



Local Gem for Seniors: Garden Court on De La Vina

Garden Court opened its doors in 2000 with the mission of serving Santa Barbara's elders with unconditional love, nurturing personal growth and celebrating life. Residents of Garden Court are those in our community who have worked all their lives in Santa Barbara to make it a better place and are deserving to be able to enjoy their golden years as an active part of the community they helped to build and sustain.

We serve our elders.
We offer unconditional love.
We nurture personal growth.
We celebrate life.
We make a difference.
—Garden Court mission

What you need to know about Garden Court:

1. **It offers independence with the benefits of community living.** Private studios with full bathroom and kitchenette, paid utilities, 24-hour staff, three meals a day, transportation, activities and much more...
2. **It's affordable.** All residents pay only 30% of their income for rent, plus a nominal fee for meals.
3. **Residents LOVE living at Garden Court.** See for yourself—call (805-884-0095) and stop by for a tour and enjoy lunch while you're there!

Preschool Programs

Do you want your child to learn language skills? To use a computer? Is your child 4 years of age and not going to school? Check out these FREE programs:

Mobile Waterford Program: a cutting edge technology language instruction program that offers 4-year old children an opportunity to learn English & early reading skills through the use of a mobile computer class. Contact (805) 896-2639

HIPPY (Home Instruction for Parents with Preschool Youngsters): readiness program helps parents teach their 3-5 year-old children at home, creating experiences for their children that lay the foundation for success in school and later life. Contact (805) 965-4633, extension 268

"The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go."

— Dr. Seuss

Everybody Dance Now!

is a youth-run nonprofit organization that provides free, weekly dance programming to young people throughout the country who would otherwise not have access to such opportunities. As their website states, they are dedicated to not only inspiring students through positive outlets that promote healthy and active lives, but also empowering our young leaders as agents of social change.



The Housing Authority has been partnering with this great program for the last few years and can attest to its inspiring mission. Please contact Marcus Lopez at 897-1044 for more information.

'Tis the season for...MOLD!

Cool weather keeps us inside with the heat turned up. Some tips to prevent the growth of mold in your home:

- **Keep areas clean!** Clean & vacuum regularly (don't forget behind & underneath) and pay special attention to cleaning the bathroom and window sills
- **Air circulation...**use exhaust fan or window when cooking, showering/bathing, and washing the dishes
- **Storing stuff...**do not store paper, books, clothes or other sources of "food" for mold in humid areas of your home (i.e. bathroom, laundry room)
- **Report a leak...**Immediately! Minor or major, water leaks need to be reported to the Housing Authority

Remember, the growth of mold requires MOISTURE, WARMTH, and FOOD (Moist environment). Depriving mold of these three items will stop it from growing. For more information, please contact the Property & Development Department at 897-1060 or look online at www.healthy-homes.info.



College Scholarships

Through the Scholarship Foundation of Santa Barbara there are many opportunities for community college and university bound students. Visit www.sbscholarship.org for more information and guidance on applications. You may also contact our Resident Services Department at 897-1044 for help.

Application deadline is January 31, 2012. College degrees equal better jobs, more income, greater interpersonal skills, management experience and RESPECT! It's never too late...

Some FREE things...

- After School Program through HACSB: at the Family Opportunity Center (526 W. Montecito St.) & Paseo Voluntario Learning Center (309 S. Voluntario St.)
- eBooks, computer coaching & adult literacy tutoring at the Library
- Recording studio, hip-hop classes, tutoring, X-box 360 & Wii games to play, wi-fi at the Twelve35 Teen Center

Housing Authority of the City of Santa Barbara

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